

Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

Issue: January 2013

Next MEPAG Meeting – February 26-27, 2013 – Washington, DC area

Mars Science News

To the Mars Exploration Community,

As I depart from the Program and NASA, after more than 20 years with Agency and nearly 9 years leading the Mars Exploration Program, I want to thank and congratulate you all on what we have accomplished. As I look back it has truly been a remarkable decade of achievements, advancements, discovery, community convergence, and world-wide notoriety. From engineer to scientist to manager, we pulled together through some tough times, kept the program, missions and research on track, replanned as challenges were thrown our way, capitalized on the incredible successes of Odyssey, Spirit & Opportunity, MRO, Phoenix, and of course MSL/Curiosity. We have changed science and changed the text books! This community has shown incredible poise, resilience, selflessness and togetherness, and incredible foresight. You have had the vision to look past challenging times and create a bright future for Mars and solar system exploration. Our recent accomplishments with Curiosity have brought Mars and solar system exploration into many people's daily lives for the first time, and we have touched the world with this incredible feat—and there's more to come! The adventure is just beginning!

While timing a retirement is always challenging, I leave encouraged and content—Curiosity safely on the surface doing incredible science (landing in a stream bed—what a start! J), and a secure future for the Mars Exploration Program with a 2020 science rover mission after MAVEN and an ExoMars cooperation. In the interim, the Program is in good hands with Michael Meyer and Jim Green (acting Program Director). The Agency is well aware of the importance of Mars and will be actively pursuing a replacement.

I have been honored to work with, and lead, such an extraordinary and innovative community. My years working with you, and our accomplishments, are without doubt the highlight of my career! Keep moving forward, keep innovating, keep discovering!

On to Mars....Doug

*Doug McCuiston
Director, Mars Exploration Program
NASA Headquarters*

Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
1/8	44th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference abstracts deadline
1/9	European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2013 abstracts deadline
1/31	Davos Atmosphere and Cryosphere Assembly abstracts deadline

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>First Quarter, 2013</i>		
	January 15-16, 2013 Tucson, AZ, USA	Joint Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter-2001 Mars Odyssey PSG Meeting
	January 23-25, 2013 Sagamihara-city, JAPAN	SELENE Symposium 2013 International Symposium on Lunar Science and Exploration Using Data from Multi-Instruments http://www.isforum.or.jp/science-event/selene_sympto_2013/en
	February 2013 Morocco	MAR2013 Northern Sahara Mars Analog Field Simulation http://www.oewf.org/cms/mars2013.phtml
	February 4-6, 2013 Los Angeles, CA, USA	The Present Day Habitability of Mars University of California at Los Angeles Abstracts deadline December 12, 2012 http://planets.ucla.edu/meetings/mars-habitability-2013/
	February 26-27, 2013 Arlington, VA, USA	Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG) #27 Save the date
	March 6-8, 2013 Washington, DC, USA	The Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science The National Academy of Science
	March 12-14, 2013 Kennedy Space Center, FL, USA	Planetary Protection: Policies and Practices Course Enrollment: 14 participants – Cost \$500 Contact tsalb@msn.com http://planetaryprotection.nasa.gov/course
	March 18-23, 2013 The Woodlands, TX, USA	44th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference Abstracts deadline January 8, 2013 http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2013
<i>Second Quarter, 2013</i>		
	April 3-6, 2013 Gainesville, FL, USA	From Start to Life Conference First announcement http://conference.astro.ufl.edu/STARSTOLIFE/
	Update April 7-12, 2013 Vienna, AUSTRIA	European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2013 Session PS2.4: Mars Science and Exploration. This session will address the latest results on the interior, surface, atmosphere and ionosphere of Mars from recent and ongoing Mars missions, in addition to future goals and experiments. Abstracts deadline January 9, 2013 http://www.egu2013.eu/
	April 17-19, 2013 Edinburgh, SCOTLAND	UK Astrobiology Conference http://www.astrobiology.ac.uk/astrobiology-conference-2013

	April 29-May 2, 2013 Baltimore, MD, USA	Habitable Worlds Across Time and Space http://www.stsci.edu/institute/conference/habitable-worlds/
	May 6-8, 2013 Washington, DC, USA	Humans to Mars Summit (H2M) Lisner Auditorium at George Washington University Registration deadline January 1, 2013 http://h2m.eventbrite.com or http://www.exploremars.org
	May 28-29, 2013 Ithaca, NY, USA	iCubeSat 2013 – The 2nd Interplanetary CubeSat Workshop Register today, submit abstracts today http://iCubeSat.org
	June 3-7, 2013 Darmstadt, GERMANY	Mars Express 10th Anniversary Celebration To be held at ESOC
	June 24-28, 2013 Annapolis, MD, USA	AGU Chapman Conference – Crossing Boundaries in Planetary Atmospheres: From Earth to Exoplanets http://chapman.agu.org/planetaryatmospheres
<i>Third Quarter, 2013</i>		
	July 1-4, 2013 Shanghai, CHINA	International Symposium on Planetary Science (IAPS2013) http://202.127.29.4/meetings/iaps2013
	July 7-14, 2013 Davos, SWITZERLAND	Davos Atmosphere and Cryosphere Assembly (DACA-13) Abstracts deadline January 31, 2013 http://www.daca-13.org
	July 9-11, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	9th Meeting of the NASA Small Bodies Assessment Group http://www.lpi.usra.edu/sbag/meetings/
	July 15–19, 2013 Pasadena, CA, USA	8th International Conference on Mars California Institute of Technology
	July 16-18, 2013 Moffett Field, CA, USA	NASA Lunar Science Forum http://lunarscience.nasa.gov/2013
	July 29-August 2, 2013 Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA	76th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society http://www.metsoc2013edmonton.org
	August 5-8, 2013 Sudbury, Ontario, CANADA	Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution V Conference http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/sudbury2013/
	August 27-31, 2013 Paris, FRANCE	IAG/AIG International Conference on Geomorphology http://www.geomorphology-iag-paris2013.com/en
	September 24-28, 2013 Medellin, COLUMBIA	2nd International Congress of Astrobiology in Columbia http://www.astrobiologia.org/2-congreso-internacional-de-astrobiologia.html
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2013</i>		
	October 14-16, 2013 Lauel, MD, USA	Lunar Exploration Analysis Group Meeting http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leag2013/
		
	October 27-30, 2013 Denver, CO, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
	November 18, 2013	MAVEN Launch Period Opens

	December 9-13, 2013 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2014</i>		
	March 2014	45th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
	July 6-11, 2014 Nara, JAPAN	ORIGINS 2014 http://www.origin-life.gr.jp/origins2014/index.html
	August 2-10, 2014 Moscow, RUSSIA	40th COSPAR 2014 and Associated Events http://www.cospar-assembly.org/
	September 20, 2014	MAVEN Mars Orbit Insertion (MOI)
	October 19-22, 2014 Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
	December 15-19, 2014 San Francisco, CA, USA	AGU Fall Meeting
<i>2015</i>		
	March 2015	46th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference
	November 1-4, 2015 Baltimore, MD, USA	Geological Society of America Annual Meeting
<i>2016</i>		
	March 8, 2016	20-Day InSight Launch Window Opens
	September 20, 2016	InSight Arrival at Mars

Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings:

Good Friday	3/29/2013	4/18/2014	4/3/2015	4/6/2016	4/14/2017
Rosh Hashanah	9/5/2013	9/25/2014	9/14/2015	9/16/2016	9/20/2017
Yom Kippur	9/14/2013	10/4/2014	9/23/2015	9/25/2016	9/29/2017
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/28/2013	11/27/2014	11/26/2015	11/22/2016	11/23/2017
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/14/2013	10/13/2014	10/12/2015	10/8/2016	10/9/2017
Christmas Day	12/25/2013	12/25/2014	12/25/2015	12/25/2016	12/25/2017

EDITORS

Joyce Pulliam	Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov	818-393-0444
Charles Budney	Charles.J.Budney@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-3981
David Beaty	David.Beaty@jpl.nasa.gov	818-354-7968

Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's email to Joyce Pulliam, Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov, 818-393-0444.

All announcements listed in this newsletter will be posted on the MEPAG website, available at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>.